

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: October 30, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 97-29201 Filed 11-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Tribal-State Gaming Compact Taking Effect

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III (casino) gambling on Indian reservations. The Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through her delegated authority, is publishing the Tribal-State Compacts between the Pueblo of Picuris, the Pueblo of Santa Ana, the Jicarilla Apache Tribe and the State of New Mexico executed on August 20, 1997, and the Pueblo of Nambe and the State of New Mexico executed on September 5, 1997. By the terms of IGRA these Compacts are considered approved, but only to the extent the Compacts are consistent with the provision of IGRA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department believes that the decision to let the 45-day statutory deadline for approval or disapproval of the Compacts expire without taking action is the most appropriate course of action given the unique history of state and federal court cases and legislative actions that have shaped the course of Indian gaming in New Mexico. A letter further explaining the Department's decision is available from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Gaming Management Staff at the address below.

DATES: This action is effective November 5, 1997.

FUR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paula L. Hart, Acting Director, Indian Gaming Management Staff, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street NW, MS 2070-MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 219-4068.

Dated: October 23, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

James H. McDivitt,

Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-29300 Filed 11-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request

TITLE: Gas Processing and Transportation Allowances.

COMMENTS: This collection of information has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Section 3506(c)(2)(A), we are notifying you, members of the public and affected agencies, of this collection of information, and are inviting your comments. Is this information collection necessary for us to properly do our job? Have we accurately estimated the public's burden for responding to this collection? Can we enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information we collect? Can we lessen the burden of this information collection on the respondents by using automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

Comments should be made directly to the Attention: Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503; telephone (202) 395-7340. Copies of these comments should also be sent to us. The U.S. Postal Service address is Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165; the courier address is Building 85, Room A-613, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; and the e-Mail address is David_Guzy@mms.gov. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days; therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days in order to assure their maximum consideration.

Copies of the proposed information collection and related explanatory material may be obtained by contacting Dennis C. Jones, Rules and Publications Staff, telephone (303) 231-3046, FAX

(303) 231-3385, e-Mail Dennis_Jones@mms.gov.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 5, 1997.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for the collection of royalties from lessees who produce minerals from leased Indian lands. The Secretary is required by various laws to manage the production of mineral resources on Indian lands, to collect the royalties due, and to distribute royalty funds in accordance with those laws. The product valuation and allowance determination process is essential to assure that the Indians receive payment on the proper value of the minerals being removed. In order to determine whether the amount of royalty tendered represents the proper royalty due, it is first necessary to establish the proper value of the gas and gas plant products being sold, or otherwise disposed of, as well as the proper costs associated with the allowable deductions from the value of gas and gas plant products.

Under certain circumstances lessees are authorized to deduct from royalty payments, the reasonable actual costs of transporting the royalty portion of produced minerals from the lease to a processing or sales point not in the immediate lease area. Transportation allowances are a part of the product valuation process which the Minerals Management Service (MMS) uses to determine if the lessee is reporting and paying the proper royalty amount.

When gas is processed for the recovery of gas plant products, lessees may claim a processing allowance. MMS normally will accept the cost as stated in the lessee's arm's-length processing contract as being representative of the cost of the processing allowance. In those instances where gas is being processed through a lessee owned plant, the processing costs shall be based upon the actual plant operating and maintenance expenses, depreciation, and a reasonable return on investment. The allowance is expressed as a cost per unit of individual plant products. Processing allowances may be taken as a deduction from royalty payments.

Failure to collect the data described could result in the undervaluation of leased minerals. Regulations at 30 CFR 206 establish uniform product valuation and allowance policies for all Indian leases. These regulations require information in support of the product valuation or allowances being claimed. Without such information, MMS cannot evaluate the correctness of values or allowances reported and claimed.